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Much of Dr. Cunningham's material is available also at the University of California and in the Ayer Collection of Newberry Library, Chicago. There is considerable material on Cuba, although generally not of the highest importance, and some on the history of Porto Rico which was selected from the archives of that island located at San Juan, covering the years 1591-1886.

In this hasty review of the Hispanic American manuscript material noted in the *Handbook*, it can be seen that there is an immense amount of prime source material available in the Library of Congress for the study of the history of Hispanic America. This relates in very great measure to Spanish and Mexican relations with territory now included in the United States. Indeed, for territory outside this country, or not contiguous to this country, the material is rather limited, although some of this is of considerable value. It is hoped that the Library of Congress will carry the *Handbook* one step farther by publishing calendars of some of the most important of the collections enumerated above, or at least complete lists of documents.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

The Virgin Islands of the United States of America; Historical and Descriptive, Commercial and Industrial Facts, Figures, and Resources.

By LUTHER K. ZABRISKIE. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1918. Pp. xvii, 339. Index, illustrations, portraits, facsimiles, and maps.)

The islands, about which Mr. Zabriskie (formerly vice-consul for the United States of America at St. Thomas) has written, were known for some two and one-half centuries as the Danish West Indies or the Danish West Indian Islands. Columbus is presumed to have discovered the islands in 1493; but their historical records date from March 30, 1666, when Erik Smidt, a Dane, took possession of them for Denmark. After negotiations covering a half century, Denmark ceded them to the United States on March 31, 1917, in consideration of the payment of \$25,000,000, United States gold.

From many points of view, these islands have at this time a peculiar interest for American readers, who will welcome the complete and authoritative work of Mr. Zabriskie. The volume, with its 109 illustrations and two maps, contains an account that is aptly described in the title. Some 85 of the pages of the book are devoted to an account of the sale negotiations, discussion of the sale, official documents (including the convention between the United States and Denmark), farewell service, formal transfer, and the first American governor, all

of which is of historic value as well as of absorbing interest, forming, indeed, in some respects the most valuable part of the work. Mr. Zabriskie has clearly taken advantage of the opportunities which his official residence at St. Thomas afforded him. His book is one of rare completeness and value, which persons who have an interest in these new possessions, whether historical, social, educational, commercial, agricultural, or industrial, will read with profit. Great credit is due the author for the manner in which he has presented so vast an amount of historical material in limited space.

HARRY ERWIN BARD.